

of fish, with a view to restocking our waters, once so full of food and pleasure to our people. Too late to make the most of the past season, yet may be considered successful in progress made in this direction. More than half a million of young shad were obtained and cast into the Tar, Contentnea, Neuse, Cape Fear, Yadkin and Catawba rivers; and we have now a quarter of a million of the eggs of the California salmon in the process of hatching in our establishment at Swananoa Gap in the Blue Ridge. These are to be distributed in the cool waters of our river heads among the mountains. Should their adaptation to those streams be established, the quantity can be multiplied indefinitely, and an awakened public sentiment can no doubt be made to influence the proper legislation to secure the clearing out of obstructions in the rivers.

Time and space forbid that we should attempt to tell you what the Board have tried to do in the way of obtaining statistics, inducing immigration, establishing a museum, and many other matters. Suffice it to say, they have attempted much and accomplished something in each direction; and one of the greatest of their accomplishments has been the renewed interest which has been awakened throughout the State in all the industries in which our people are engaged.

The chief difficulty against which the Board has had to contend consists in the task of reaching the great mass of the people. No undertaking of this kind can hope to be entirely successful unless a cheap and speedy communication can be had with those for whose benefit we are laboring. The reports of our correspondents, the formulas and analyses of our chemist, and all other information published by our Commissioner for the past season, were partly promulgated by the courtesy of the political press of the State, and partly in small pamphlets, which, though so few in number, probably one-tenth of what was actually received, yet cost a very large proportion of our very small fund.

To meet this want, the Board determined to procure the establishment of an agricultural journal, entirely disconnected with politics, and exclusively devoted to the success of the Board's work, through the columns of which their labors could be made known to the farmers and others. Like the Department itself, the paper will cost the public not one dollar in the shape of taxes, the enterprising publishers agreeing to publish free all matter furnished them by the Board and risk their remuneration in the patronage of the people. Their columns being thus placed under our control we pledge ourselves that every means in our power shall be exerted to make it worthy of that patronage. If the Department of Agriculture shall prove capable of doing anything for the real good of North Carolina, these results will be made known through these columns from time to time.

With many congratulations on the success of the year and the improved condition of our people, we heartily commend this enterprise to their support.

By order of the Board.

Z. B. VANCE,
Chairman.

L. L. POLK, Commissioner.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

The anti-bond-payers were strong enough to elect the Speaker of the Virginia House of Delegates.

Virginia paid last year \$178,000 for criminal charges. Two thirds of these expenses were due to crime traceable to liquor. Yet any attempt to curtail the rum traffic is met by general opposition.

The Chicago Colonization Board have purchased 100,000 acres of land in Collman county, Ala. They will assist worthy emigrants from the Northwestern States with tools, seeds, &c., to give them a start. There is also a valuable spring, equal to Schwabach's in Germany. A hotel will be built and the spring fixed up, so as to have it ready for visitors early next summer. Twenty-five families moved at once, to be followed every month by as many more.

Bonner, of the N. Y. Ledger, has bought the 4-year old roan gelding "Keen Jim," which recently made 2,264, 2,244 and 2,264, in three straight heats, winning the title of the fastest 4-year old in the world.

The land owners of Kansas have put into service the tenant-"share" system, which has long been common in North Carolina, though the Northern papers speak of it as the "newest industrial feature in the world." Large tracts of prairie are plowed, seeded and harvested by the poorer emigrants at a stipulated sum, or share, per acre, paid to the owner.

The fees in the Swazey case claimed by Messrs. Brewster, of Philadelphia, were only the small sum of \$1,000,000. The claim being referred, they were allowed \$65,000, besides the referee's expenses. The News oppositely suggests that Messrs. Brewster be asked if they will take the railroad as part pay, and what time they will grant on the remainder.

It is something new for editors to offer premiums at Fairs, for they are supposed to have more than their share in free advertising, &c. But it goes to show that the craft is willing to practice its own precepts in supporting such associations. Brother Bonitz, of the Messenger, makes a really liberal offer of 10 subscriptions, an \$8 album, and a \$5 cook-stove, to young ladies who shall compete for best sewing and bread-making at Sampson County Fair. If he were not the half-owner of a pretty fair of junior Messengers, we should suspect him of "designs" on the fair sex.

Bro. McDowell, of the Home, has been presented with a fine Chester white pig, by a stock raiser in Pennsylvania. He has named the little carpet-bagger "Young Granger," and says he differs from "many of our breeds whose snouts seem formed for the express purpose of drinking buttermilk from a jug." Apropos the same subject, he writes: "With the cold weather, the squeals of butchered hogs, and the odor of sausage meat and rendered lard pervade the land. The boy who will not get up before day to watch the killing of the fattening hogs and take part in the scalding and warming himself by the big log and rock fire, is too trifling to raise. If he is too lazy to get up at hog killing time, there is no hope for him."

It is well that Mahometan belief does not prevail in this country, else we might be over-run by wild swine. Few persons can imagine the rapidity with which the hog increases under ordinarily favorable circumstances. Marshal Vauban estimated that the progeny of a common sow in ten years, assuming six pigs at a litter, would result in a herd of 6,434,130. This will account for the fact that our country continues well stocked with porkers, notwithstanding the enormous quantities consumed from year to year. We learn from an official statement that from March to November of the present year no less than 2,539,300 hogs were slaughtered by the packers of the Western States. Yet this was only a dip in the dish of National hog-slaying.

A French agricultural journal, the *Busse Cour*, describes the result of some experiments in potato-growing recently conducted by scientific men in Germany, in which it is demonstrated that the "eyes" at the top of the potato produce a much more vigorous offspring than those in the lower part, and the consequence is that those agriculturists who cut their potatoes in half before planting them are not well advised in cutting them vertically, but should always divide them horizontally, planting the upper half and using the other as food for cattle. But the best plan of all is to plant the tuber whole, cutting out, nevertheless, all the "eyes" except those in the top part. We publish the foregoing for what it is worth.

Bad Policy.

We learn that a barrel of chestnuts, weighing 187 lbs, was lately shipped from Henry's, on the W. N. C. road, to a merchant in Raleigh. The freight charges on the barrel were \$3.39, to wit: \$1.00 for the Western N. C. road 119 miles, and \$2.39 over the R. & Danville road 135 miles. The price realized did not quite pay the freight and commissions, including the wagon charges from Asheville to the Railroad, 21 miles. No wonder there are few products in the Raleigh market from the mountains of our State, whilst it is flooded with such things brought from Maine and Massachusetts. No wonder that our farmers despair and our railroads go into bankruptcy. Such a policy is death to both country and railroads.

The Commissioner of Agriculture is charged with the enforcement of the law passed by the last Legislature in regard to obstructions to the passage of fish in the Pee Dee and other rivers. And he will do his duty in the matter. The law may not be perfect; but still it is the law—and a good law; and good citizens should obey and be governed by it without factions and unreasonable opposition.—Wadesboro Herald.

Department of Agriculture.

NOTE.—The space on this page following the above heading is set apart for the official publications of the Board, and is edited by Col. L. L. POLK, Commissioner. Our readers and the correspondents of the Board will please note.

State Board of Agriculture, Immigration and Statistics.

Z. B. VANCE, Governor and ex officio Chairman.
W. C. KERR, State Geologist and ex officio member of the Board.
K. P. BATTLE, President State Agricultural College and ex officio member of the Board.
T. M. HOLY, President State Agricultural Society and ex officio member of the Board.
S. B. ALEXANDER, Master State Grange, P. O. H., and ex officio member of the Board.
J. R. THOMPSON, of Edgecombe county.
JONATHAN EVANS, of Cumberland county.
EDWIN L. POLK, Commissioner.
THOS. J. ROBINSON, Secretary and Treasurer.
Office, second floor of Briggs' Building, Raleigh, N. C.

List of Correspondents of the Board of Agriculture.

NOTE.—The regular correspondents of the department are requested to act as agents for the FARMER and MECHANIC, which will hereafter be the official organ of the Department. They are specially requested to extend the circulation of the paper in their counties as far as possible.

Alamance—D. W. Kerr, D. A. Montgomery.
Alexander—W. W. Gryder, J. P. Matheson.
Alleghany—D. C. Jones.
Anson—H. W. Robinson, H. W. Ledbetter.
Ashe—Geo. H. Hamilton.
Beaufort—Thos. H. Blount.
Bertie—Duncan C. Winston, John C. Times.
Bladen—J. Stuart Devane, J. W. Purdie.
Brunswick—O. McR. Holmes, John N. Bennett.
Buncombe—Samuel C. Shelton.
Samuel B. Gudgey.
Burke—J. T. Patterson, Chas. E. McKesson.
Cabarrus—Dr. Columbus Mills.
Erwin Harris.
Caldwell—J. M. Houck, J. C. Harper, A. A. Scroggs.
Camden—G. D. B. Pritchard.
Carteret—W. F. Howland.
Caswell—Azariah Graves, Dr. N. M. Roan.
Catawba—W. P. Reinhardt.
Chatham—T. W. Harris, R. James Powell.
Cherokee—Wm. Beal.
Chowan—A. H. Gilliam.
Clay—W. H. McClure.
Cleveland—J. W. Garrett, Thomas Kendrick.
Columbus—D. S. Cowan.
Craven—Enoch Wadsworth.
Cumberland—Wm. Alderman.
Currituck—Wm. B. Shaw.
Dare—Geo. L. Fulcher, Isaac C. Meekins.
Davidson—J. A. Leach.
Davie—W. A. Clement.
Duplin—W. M. Kennedy.
Edgecombe—W. T. Cobb.
Forsythe—Geo. W. Hinshaw, R. S. Linville.
Franklin—A. S. Perry.
Gaston—G. F. Bason.
Gates—Bruce Smith.
Graham—G. B. Walker.
Granville—N. A. Gregory, S. A. Cannady.
Greene—W. P. Ormond, W. A. Darden.
Guilford—J. W. Albright.
Halifax—G. H. Macon, F. M. Garrett, Jno. B. Neal.
Harnett—Jesse S. Smith, Daniel McKay.
Haywood—E. H. Hyatt, A. J. Herren.
Henderson—H. J. Farmer, W. G. B. Morris.
Hertford—J. E. Newsum.
Hyde—W. S. Carter.
Iredell—J. D. Click, John Y. Templeton.
Jackson—D. D. Davies.
Johnston—E. W. Pott.
Jones—Jas. B. Stanley, Isaac Brown.
Lenoir—John C. Wooten, N. B. Whitfield.
Lincoln—W. A. Graham.
Macon—C. D. Smith, Silas McDowell.
Madison, J. J. Gudgey.
Martin—H. D. Roberson.
McDowell—John S. Brown, S. J. Neal.
Mecklenburg—J. F. Johnson.
Mitchell—S. W. Blacklock.
Montgomery—H. M. Scarborough, C. W. Woolley.
Moore—Wm. Arnold, S. M. Edwards.
Nash—N. W. Boddie, J. A. Harrison, W. H. Hilliard, Jr.
New Hanover—J. N. Maffit, J. L. Cantwell.
Northampton—Wm. Grant, W. J. Rogers.
Onslow—Hill E. King, J. B. Taylor.
Orange—Jas. H. Parish, J. Knox Hughes.
Pamlico—W. T. Caho, James S. Lane.
Pasquotank—C. W. Hollowell.
Pender—G. S. French, Dr. S. S. Satchwell, C. W. McClumny.
Perquimans—James Newbold.
Person—James M. Barnett.
Pitt—John King, James Joyner.
Polk—Dr. L. R. McAlroy.
Randolph—M. S. Robins.
Richmond—Jas. L. Cooley, T. W. Guthrie.
Robeson—H. McMillan, D. P. McEachern.
Rockingham—John W. Hutcherson.
Thos. W. Field.
Rowan—Luke Blackmer, S. R. Harrison.
Rutherford—T. D. Twitty.
Sampson—John Ashford, N. H. Fennel.
Stanley—J. E. Hartsell.
Stokes—W. W. King, Ben. Bailey.
Surry—Wm. B. Wolf, R. R. Gwyn.
Swain—S. B. Gibson.
Transylvania—Thos. L. Gash.
Tyrell—C. E. Tatem, Ed Spruill.
Union—Vachel T. Chears.
Wake—W. G. Upchurch, W. B. Smith, S. D. Williams.
Warren—W. H. Check.
Washington—T. J. Norman, Arthur Collins, Wm. R. Chesson.
Watauga—A. J. McBride.
Wayne—J. E. Gadsby, T. B. Hyman.
Wilkes—L. Harrel, J. T. Finley.

Wilson—R. W. King, Frank W. Barnes.
Yadkin—Dr. T. Long, H. C. Wilson.
Yancey—J. R. Neill, N. M. Wilson.

Mountain Land—Fine Tobacco.

John J. Lawhorne, of Amherst, lives on a tract of mountain land of ninety-seven acres, which would bring three dollars per acre. His hands consist of himself and little boys. He sold his tobacco for the following prices:

350 lbs. for \$32 per hundred.
300 " " " \$24 " "
300 " lugs at \$5.90 " "

This tobacco was cured without any peculiar skill. He has a fine crop of corn, always makes bread and meat for his family, and some little to sell.

The above is from the last *Planter & Farmer*.

In Granville county, N. C., Mr. Mitchell Currin, raised with himself and two sons, one 18 years old, and another (a sickly one) about thirteen years old, a crop of tobacco that netted him over three thousand dollars. An old negro man with equally a sorry team and force—a part of his land was dug up with picks—sold his crop to a speculator for nine hundred dollars. Mr. Mike Hester raised on five acres ground a crop that brought him over eighteen hundred dollars. Mr. Ben Hester makes in the neighborhood of one thousand dollars to the land (and working several.) The Lillies, the Hobgoods, Lyons, Knotts, Crews, and other families have done probably quite as well—possibly better—but the facts are not known to us. These or similar statements have been made about tobacco growing in our section, but they have never been copied into the *Sun* or *Nation*—*Herald* or *Harpers*. It has not been a source of grief to us though, for we are not of those who believe that the salvation of North Carolina is in immigration. If her own children can only be made to realize her great destiny, and rest quiet it will cure all the concern we have on this subject. A few more of our educated young men may dream dreams of prosperity for themselves, in the Gulf and western States—but that desire, and custom as it is, is rapidly passing away. The fact is being found out, that there is no place in all the world, where with the same amount of capital, a farmer can make as much, as the bright tobacco belt of North Carolina (and a few counties in Virginia) we would not create the impression that every farmer succeeds in this business, for such is not the fact. There is no operation, certainly on the farm, so scientific as the raising, curing and handling of bright tobacco. There is no business in which pluck, perseverance, and intelligence will pay so well. In it almost every year some new idea is developed. A partnership or an apprenticeship to some successful man is almost absolutely necessary, unless the farmer has capital to employ some laborer skilled in the work.

If any young man who feels the fever of "go south or west" coming on him, will read the statistics upon the subject of "Success," he must conclude with us, that for a young man of fair education and intelligence, and willing to work, there is no more investing field than this one of bright tobacco. It has a future that seems but dawning. For small farms and farming there is nothing like it in all the world. Then let our young men stand to their posts and be of good cheer. N. A. G.

Wake Forest, N. C., Nov. 10th, 1877.

WANTED.—The Department of Agriculture wants at least one live, enterprising farmer, in each township, in the following counties, to act as correspondents: Ashe, Carteret, Caswell, Clay, Columbus, Craven, Currituck, Dare, Davidson, Duplin, Forsythe, Franklin, Guilford, Iredell, Mitchell, Moore, New Hanover, Polk, Swain, Transylvania, Tyrell, Washington and Watauga. Will the special correspondents for these counties send into the Commissioner a list of names at once?

RALEIGH, Dec. 8, 1877.

Col. L. L. Polk, Commissioner, &c.

DEAR SIR:—Messrs. H. Preston & Sons, of New York, on the 4th inst. paid into this office \$500, privilege tax, to sell "H. Preston & Sons Superphosphate" in this State one year from date. Respectfully,

JNO. M. WORTH, State Treasurer.
per T. C. WORTH, Teller.

A correspondent of the Department for Tyrrell county, writes that he is certain that not half enough corn is made in that county to supply the local demand. It will be remembered that the monthly report of Col. Polk, issued during the season, represented nearly all that portion of the State as being greatly damaged by continued wind and rain storms.

Prof. A. R. Ledoux, State Chemist.

DEAR SIR:—I wish to propound a few questions of practical agricultural utility.

1. What is the best material for composting with stable manure and cotton seed to procure a first class fertilizer?

2. Will stable manure, cotton seed, and national soluble bone compost combine the elements of fertility sufficient (by analysis) for farmers to rely on for a paying crop?

3. What is the best paying method of applying guano? and the best brands of guano.

4. Which is best, the manipulated guano (of the present day) or the South Carolina Phosphate, or acid phosphate for composting?

In Virginia guano is composted up with home manures, in North Carolina and Georgia compost has been made of acid phosphate, bone and a humbug name called chemicals. As the season for profitable composting is near at hand, you will please give us a profitable lesson on the subject. As there are 800 subscribers to the *FARMER & MECHANIC*, and each subscriber has two farmer friends, your timely lesson of advice asked for would reach 2400 farmers, who wish to improve by cheapening the cost of production and make progress in agriculture.

S. M. STONE.

Wake Forest, N. C., Nov. 10th, 1877.

STATE GLEANINGS.

W. H. Wheeler, Collector of Revenue for the 5th district, has removed his office from Greensboro to Winston.

The *Lincolnton Progress* tells of a Catawba county man who took his cotton to the gin not knowing it was Sunday.

The most interesting revival ever known to Henderson, N. C., is progressing in the Baptist church. An Episcopal clergyman is assisting.

There will be a meeting of Alamance Agricultural Society Saturday, the 15th of December, at 10 o'clock, A. M. All persons interested are invited to attend.

Great Falls, factory, at Rockingham, works 125 hands, runs 2,840 spindles, 130 looms averaging 56 yards per day to the loom 4-4 wide, 3 yards to the pound.

James A. Bryan, Esq., was recently appointed by the governor to fill the vacancy in the Board of County Commissioners, occasioned by the resignation of Mr. F. D. Schlachter, of Craven.

Three daughters of a Kentuckian determined to be married the other day, and their father refusing to approve their resolve, they all eloped with the men of their choice the same night.

At a meeting of certain of the Presbyterian churches in Cabarrus county, elder Ford was severe on church members who play billiards in bar rooms and take whiskey across the counter.

A gang of thieves broke into the store of B. Goodwin at Lumberton, and then fired it. The store, warehouse and town academy, Masonic Lodge, &c., were destroyed. Loss about \$6,000.

We have heard that the gin house of Mr. Willis Eason, of this county, caught fire from a match on Tuesday last and was totally consumed. Loss reported to be about \$1,500. No insurance. This is the third gin house burned in Nash in less than five weeks. *Rocky Mt. Mail*.

Col. Polk has been untiring in his efforts to make his department of real intrinsic value to the State, and it is to be deplored that our people can be so apathetic in a matter of such vast importance to every citizen of North Carolina.—*Wm. Democrat*.

Mr. Noah Sandford, of Laurel Hill, raised, this year, 60 lbs of cured tobacco on about 13 yards square, or a little less than one twenty-ninth of an acre. The tobacco he can sell for 30 cents a pound, or \$18.00. According to this, an acre will produce 1733 pounds, which, at that price, would bring \$3120.00.—*Pee Dee Bee*.

Last Friday week, the 30th November, Mr. Eben N. Ingram, near Grassy Islands, had the misfortune to have his gin house burned, together with his valuable gin, about two bales of cotton and other things stored in the building, the loss amounting to about \$1500. It is thought that a spark from the engine fell into the lint room. The building was on fire in a few minutes. —P. D. B.

Judge Settle left for Florida last Thursday, accompanied by Mrs. Settle.

The Commissioner of the Bank of Cape Fear, Col. J. N. Staples, of Greensboro, has prescribed certain rules for the filing of claims against the stockholders of the bank.

D. Anderson, the colored press-turner of the *Goldboro Messenger*, while crossing the track of the N. C. R. R., watching one train, stepped in front of another on the A. & N. C. R. R., and was killed. He was frightfully mutilated.

Prof. C. D. Smith, of Macon, has received a Medal and Diploma awarded him last year by the Centennial authorities for a valuable collection of minerals which Mr. S. had collected from our Western counties. Mr. S. deserved this for his skill and energy, as well as the minerals.

Washington Press: There is a hen in town that lays 7 eggs a week, but not an egg every day. She will not violate the fourth commandment, but on Saturday performs double duty and deposits two fine large eggs in her nest. She is a reverential hen, says her owner, who is our authority for the above statement. Beat that!

We notice that our talented county man, N. A. Gregory, Esq., will contribute regularly for the *FARMER AND MECHANIC*. We congratulate the management of that journal upon this valuable acquisition, as Mr. Gregory is not only regarded as a most successful farmer, but he also has a peculiarly happy and forcible faculty of presenting on paper the results of his experience in practice.—*Oxford Free Lance*.

Three attempts at robbery in Greensboro last week. A thief entered the house of L. W. Andrews, who seized a pair of tongs and beat him into beating a retreat. Mr. Andrews found the thief had built a fire in the dining room, lit the lamp and made his supper of the balance of a Thanksgiving turkey. He was unable to recognize the man, who was muffled in such a manner as to remain unknown.

The monthly crop report of the North Carolina Department of Agriculture for September, contains a valuable appendix in the shape of "Analyses and Valuation of Fertilizers," by Dr. A. R. Ledoux, of the Fertilizer Central Station at Chapel Hill, N. C. The rigorous examination of different brands of fertilizers sold in this State has already had the effect of improving their commercial value.—*Elmira (N. Y.) Husbandman*.

Dr. Geo. W. Graham, of Raleigh, assisted by Dr. Knox, of Raleigh, and Dr. Patterson of this vicinity, operated for Mrs. Jas. N. Patterson, last week, by removing the eye. The skillful piece of surgery was performed in 12 minutes, without any pain of which the patient was conscious, and was entirely successful in every respect. Dr. Graham makes the eye and ear a specialty, and his eminent success in this case proves him a highly skilled physician.—*Durham Tobacco Plant*.

The grave of Dr. Elisha Mitchell, Professor in the University of North Carolina, who ascertained that the Black Mountains in this State were the highest range east of the Rocky Mountains, and who was killed by a fall from a precipice while exploring in 1857, is on the mountain which bears his name and is unmarked by monument or inscription, a rough wall of unheaven stone alone showing its site. Big Tom Wilson, the guide, who discovered his mangled remains, is still living.

The result of the protracted meeting held here during the past few weeks, under the administration of Rev. C. M. Cook, has been fifty-three converts, most of whom have connected themselves with the church. Mr. Cook has accomplished this great work unaided, except by Mr. T. W. Harris, layman of this county. And in his work is seen his influence in this community. Men who heretofore have never turned their minds to religious thought, have under his burning words been won from the world to the church.—*Weldon News*.

SCHOOL NOTES.

The graded school at Magnolia has 120 pupils in attendance.

Prof. Lewis' music school at Kernansville is very full.

The closing exercises of Mr. McCaskill's school, at Ellerbe Springs, will take place on Thursday and Friday before Christmas.

And now Beaver Dam has an auspicious singing school under the management of Messrs. J. W. O'Bryan, Jr., and L. L. Lovin.

The following are the speakers at Rutherford College on the 19th inst.:

From the *Platonic*—John C. Marsh, Union; J. B. Genter, Orange; W. B. North, Cleveland; T. L. Sellers, Alamance; F. M. Carlton, Chatham; J. W. Jones, Iredell; P. T. Peeler, Burke.

From the *Neotonic*—B. A. York, Burke; A. J. Farrell, Chatham; K. B. Rhein, Burke; J. A. Stewart, Canada.

From the *Lee*—John W. Lasley, Alamance; Wm. E. Cunningham, Mecklenburg.

Wade Hampton to Marry a Louisiana Lady.

It is reported that Wade Hampton is soon to marry a beautiful, wealthy widow, prominent as one of the leaders of Louisiana society. She has two beautiful daughters, the eldest of whom, lovely as a dream, made her debut last winter, and is now Louisville's bright particular belle. The mother is almost as youthful in appearance as the daughter; tall and elegant in figure, and exquisitely graceful, brown-eyed, with a mass of sunny brown hair, she would make a bride of whom even Wade Hampton might be proud. She and the lion Governor met at the Lee-Memorial ball at White Sulphur last Summer.